



The Municipal EcoLink

An e-bulletin from the NH Department of Environmental Services

October 2014

The Municipal EcoLink is a monthly e-bulletin designed to inform you of the latest environmental ideas, trends, grants, rules and more from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES). We respectfully request that the following is electronically distributed or otherwise made available to your municipal committees, councils and boards. Please feel free to post it on your municipal website as well. You may read past issues at [The Municipal EcoLink](#)

Transfer Station Survey Re: Disposal of Smoke Detectors

NHDES is surveying transfer stations around NH to learn about how they handle disposal of radiological and non-radiological smoke detectors, and if they don't throw away detectors, we would like to know what they tell residents to do with them. If possible, please have a representative from your local transfer station fill out the very brief survey by following the link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/KTTQPZQ>

Brownfields Assessment Grants

NHDES' Brownfields Program is making available \$200,000 for two or more site specific Assessment Grants. The Grants will provide funding to conduct assessment work on properties where the redevelopment or reuse of the site is complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance or contaminant. NHDES is soliciting Grant applications from interested municipalities, non-profit organizations and other eligible entities. Each individual site proposed for funding will be eligible to receive an Assessment Grant of up to \$100,000.

Assessment Grant applications will be accepted through October 31, 2014. NHDES anticipates that funding decisions will be made by the end of December 2014. Additional information, including eligibility criteria, schedule and applications, are available on the NHDES website at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/waste/hwrb/ss/brownfields/rif-assessment-grants.htm> or by contacting Michael McCluskey at (603) 271-2183 or michael.mccluskey@des.nh.gov.

NH Association of Conservation Commissions Annual Meeting, Nov. 1

NHDES will be providing several presentations at the annual meeting of the NH Association of Conservation Commissions being held on November 1st at the Laconia Middle School. This conference, themed "Inspiring Young Conservationists," is meant to teach conservation commissions how to tackle one of the greatest challenges -- how to pass the torch to the next generation of volunteers. Attendees will also learn from young conservationists who have been inspired to get involved and hear what they have to say about how we can inspire others like them. How a conservation commission can involve young people (kids, families or young professionals) in its community's conservation activities will be addressed by many speakers. As always there will be great sponsor tables, a delicious lunch and lots of networking.

Among the 32 dynamic sessions are those by NHDES staff including:

- Climate Change Adaptation: Planning and Making Resilient Communities - Sherry Godlewski
- Monitoring the Health of Your Town's Wetlands: Vernal Pools - Sandy Crystall, PWS, NHDES & Andrea Hansen, NHDES Intern
- Wetland Mitigation Successes of the ARM Fund - Lori Sommer, NHDES & Dijit Taylor, LCHIP
- Wetlands Compliance: How To - Linda Magoon & Jason Aube

NHACC is offering a reduced registration fee for teachers or students and waiving the registration fee for legislators. Please pass on the word to the teachers, students and legislators that you know. Registration is open online at: www.nhacc.org/annualmeeting44.

Source Water Protection Grants

The 2015 Local Source Water Protection grant application is now available at http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dwgb/dwspp/lswp_grants.htm. Funding is available to develop and implement projects to protect existing sources of public drinking water. Applicants can receive up to \$20,000 for projects to protect drinking water sources, including watershed planning, delineation of protection areas, assessment of threats to water supply sources, implementation, and source security.

Descriptions of projects previously funded by this grant program are available on the program's webpage. Please contact Kelsey Vaughn at 271-2950 or kelsey.vaughn@des.nh.gov or Pierce Rigrod at 271-0688 or pierce.rigrod@des.nh.gov if you have any questions or would like to discuss your proposal. The application deadline is Monday, November 3, 2014.

Salt Applicator Certification Training

If you are concerned about winter maintenance practices on private parking lots polluting local waterbodies with road salt this winter, consider promoting the UNH Green SnowPro training and NHDES Salt Applicator Certification Program with commercial salt applicators in your community. A voluntary salt applicator certification is available for commercial salt applicators who have completed the UNH Technology Transfer Center's Green SnowPro training program. The training focuses on how to apply salt in the most efficient manner and certified participants using best management practices and keeping proper records -- or property owners who hire them -- are not liable for damages arising from snow or ice. Upcoming full day and refresher trainings will be held this fall. For information and registration: <http://www.t2.unh.edu/green-snowpro-training-and-certification> or call 862-282.

Workshop on Forest Laws for Municipal Officials

A half-day classroom with optional afternoon field component for town officials, conservation commissions, or citizen environmentalists on timber harvesting laws. Presentations by state agencies on wetlands regulations, best management practices, timber tax law, roads, and forest harvest laws. For further information and registration, visit <http://extension.unh.edu/events/files/6AE3EC3E-FEDB-0009-5BC41071995AC4F7.pdf>

Thursday, November 6, 2014 – Community Building, 308 Route 4, Enfield, NH

Tuesday, November 18, 2014, Chesterfield Town Hall, 518 Route 63, Chesterfield, NH

First Responder Course for Alternative Fuel Vehicles, NH Fire Academy, Concord, November 7

This all-day training for fire, police and EMTs focuses on natural gas (CNG), propane and hydrogen powered vehicles. Classroom and hands-on training. Fee is \$15 (includes lunch). This event is partially funded through a U.S. Department of Energy grant. Contact Chris Johnson (603)966-7905 to sign up.

School Bus Replacement Funding Opportunity

EPA's National Clean Diesel Campaign (NCDC) is now accepting applications for the 2014 School Bus Replacement Funding Opportunity. This is a rebate program to replace older school buses in both the public and private fleets. The total funding for this opportunity is approximately \$3 million. To learn more about the rebate program, applicant eligibility, and the selection process, please visit www.epa.gov/cleandiesel/dera-rebate-schoolbus14.htm.

FREE NetDMR Training for NPDES Permit Holders– December 4

If you are already using NetDMR fantastic! If you are not using NetDMR, why not? Eventually all NH NPDES permit holders will have to report their monthly discharge monitoring report (DMR) data using NetDMR. Get on board, attend the free training, and move into the future!

The next NetDMR training class for NPDES permittees will be held at NH DES offices in Concord on Thursday December 4th from 9:00am-1:00pm. NH Operators can earn 0.5 CEUs for attending the training.

Please note that anyone interested in attending the class should register directly with EPA. To register for the upcoming December 4th training, please send an email with your name, facility name, facility NPDES Permit Number, facility address, and facility telephone number to R1.NetDMR@epa.gov.

Training Opportunities for Solid Waste Facility Operators

DES has multiple training opportunities available for continuing professional development and for first-time operators in the coming months.

Continuing Professional Development Workshops: Thursday, November 20th we will be presenting for the second time Things That Go Boom!: Meth Lab & Other Dangerous Wastes from 9:00 am-12:00 pm and on Friday, December 12 we will be presenting a workshop geared towards Solid Waste facility managers at the DES Offices in Portsmouth from 9:00 am-12:00 pm. If you want to attend a workshop, please call 271-2925 to register.

Basic Training: We will be offering Basic Training on Tuesday, December 16 from 8:30 am-2:30 pm, with the exam following the training. If you want to attend Basic Training, please complete the Initial Application

for Solid Waste Facility Operator Certification and submit it to NHDES along with the required \$50 fee. If you have any questions, please call 271-2925.

Dartmouth Research Program Will Work With Towns on Private Well Testing

The Toxic Metals Superfund Research Program at Dartmouth College will pilot locally-based approaches to increasing the testing of private wells in a limited number of New Hampshire towns in 2015. A team from Dartmouth is working under a CDC-funded two-year contract with NHDES and NH Department of Health and Human Services to estimate the health effects of arsenic in private well water and develop effective methods to increase testing and reduce health effects. High levels of arsenic are found in one in five private bedrock wells in New Hampshire. Dartmouth's report on health effects and proposed pilot projects can be found at <http://www.dartmouth.edu/~toxmetal/assets/pdf/Wellreport.pdf>. If interested in participating in the pilot projects, please contact Laurie Reynolds Rardin at (603) 643-1868 or laurie.rardin@dartmouth.edu

Changes to Underground Storage Tanks and Piping – Deadline December 22, 2015

This is a reminder that pursuant to Env-Or 408.05 (c); With the exception of vent piping, any part of an existing single walled petroleum underground storage tank (UST) systems storing oil as defined in RSA 146-A:2-III (petroleum products and their by-products) without secondary containment and leak monitoring shall be permanently closed or upgraded to double-walled systems by December 22, 2015. This includes systems that may have a double-walled tank, but single-walled piping.

RSA 146-C:7 requires that the owner of an underground storage tank and piping system requiring upgrades shall retain the services of a New Hampshire licensed engineer to prepare plans showing how and where the tank system will be installed and submit them to NHDES for review and approval, prior to installation. Town Selectmen, school boards and superintendents, and town officials should review their UST holdings and if any of their tank systems are deficient should budget funds in the coming fiscal year and plan for the required upgrades to ensure that the required deadline is met.

If you have questions concerning the status of your tank system contact Matt Jones in the NHDES' Oil Remediation and Compliance Bureau at (603) 271-2986.

Management Training for Drinking Water and Wastewater Utilities to be offered in 2015

NHDES, the NH Water Pollution Control Assoc. and NH Water Works Assoc. are again offering a training program for drinking water and wastewater managers and supervisors. It will be held once a month, March through November 2015, in Concord, N.H. Topics will include the regulatory environment in New Hampshire, conflict management, budgeting, employee relations and public speaking. Applications must be completed and submitted to NHDES by November 15, 2014. A limited number of applicants will be selected. Application forms and information are at:

<http://www.des.state.nh.us/organization/divisions/water/web/documents/boot-camp-app.pdf>

Asset Management Planning Grant Program

The NHDES Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau is pleased to announce the third round of the Asset Management Planning Grant program. This grant is intended to assist community water systems in developing an asset management plan. The program will provide community water systems a 50% matching grant up to \$15,000 to conduct asset management initiatives.

Applications will be accepted until November 28, 2014. Eligible systems include Community Water Systems serving a population of 500 or greater. An information packet and application are available on the DWGB website at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/asset-management/index.htm> under Grant/Loans. Feel free to contact Luis Adorno at 271-2472 or luis.adorno@des.nh.gov if you have any questions or would like to discuss your proposal.

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